

2026 Special Exhibition

***Kankyakka*—The Path That Hōunsai Followed—**



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As we approach the first anniversary of the death of Urasenke’s 15th-generation iemoto, Hōunsai (1923–2025), we are holding this exhibition to reflect on his life. Hōunsai was born in Taishō 12 as the eldest son of Urasenke’s 14th-generation iemoto, Mugensai (1893–1964). During World War II (the Pacific War), he entered the Imperial Japanese Navy as part of the “student mobilization” program, and having become a member of the Special Attack Corps, he was standing by for his sortie order when the war ended. After resuming his activities as heir to the position of Urasenke iemoto, he passionately dedicated himself to promoting cultural exchange through the Way of Tea, and traveled to a great many countries around the world advocating for “Peacefulness Through a Bowl of Tea.” This exhibition, taking its main title from that of the last book that Hōunsai wrote, looks back on his 102-year life through his calligraphy and paintings, *konomimono* or “favored objects, published works and related resources, and photographic panels.

Exhibition period

2026 June 18 (Wed) – September 15 (Tue)

Hours

9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. (admission ends at 4:00 P.M.)

Days closed

Every Monday, but if it is a national holiday, closed the next day, Tuesday, instead.
Closed August 8 (Thu)–August 16 (Sun). Open Monday September 14.

Admission fee

Regular, ¥1,000; college students, ¥600; jr. & sr. high students, ¥350. Elementary school students and under, and students of membership schools, free.

Wagashi and matcha service

Available on the days when the galleries are open, with the exception of August 12 (Wed).

Fee: ¥1,000 (besides exhibition admission fee).

Some of the exhibits



「和氣満萬国」 “All countries brimming with harmonious atmosphere.” Calligraphy by Hōunsai.



Incense container made from Japanese moon scallop. Favored by Hōunsai. Chado Research Center Collection.



Large Amidadō-style kettle favored by Rikyū. Bear's Hōunsai's signature. Made by Ōnishi XV, Seiweimon.



Tea bowl decorated with motif of purple phoenix. Favored by Hōunsai. Made by Eiraku Sokuzen. Commemorates Hōunsai's being awarded the Medal with Purple Ribbon. Konnichian Collection.



Ohi ware tea bowl inscribed with the words *Wa, Kei, Sei, Jaku*. Made by Hōunsai, and fired by Tōyasai. Commemorates Hōunsai's being awarded the Order of Culture.



Kaigu set of chanoyu implements made of turquoise-colored Cochin ware decorated with motif of interlocking circles and treasures galore. Favored by Hōunsai. Made by Nakamura Suiran.



Bamboo tea scoop named "Tsukaeai" ("To be of service to each other"). Made by Hōunsai. Chado Research Center Collection.



Square dish decorated with kanji 馬 (horse) written in reverse. Writing, by Hōunsai. Fired at the Hanase kiln. Chado Research Center Collection.